

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 12, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 3, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 146

Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members De Leon and Portantino)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Coto and Saldana)

June 23, 2008

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 146—Relative to the California-Mexico Project.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 146, as amended, Solorio. California-Mexico Project.

This measure would encourage faculty and student exchange between California's and Mexico's institutions of higher education through the California-Mexico Project. This measure would request the California Research Bureau, ~~in consultation with the California Postsecondary Education Committee, to assess and determine the current number of faculty and students and the scientific research exchanged between California's and Mexico's institutions of higher education~~ *to research and report on the programmatic and funding elements of an effective international student and faculty exchange program and would request the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community College system to consult with the bureau and provide the bureau with data on international exchange programs involving students and faculty, funding of those programs, and other pertinent information.*

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Student exchange programs not only evoke
2 learning, but also perpetuate constructive communication and
3 collaborative efforts between different groups; and

4 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the California-Mexico Project,
5 created by California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)
6 Professor Armando Vazquez-Ramos, is efficiently working to
7 exchange students and faculty members between California's and
8 Mexico's institutions of higher education; and

9 WHEREAS, The enhancement of the California-Mexico Project
10 will increase CSULB's status as a competitive, top-tier university,
11 an initiative that could attract more teachers and staff to work at
12 the California State University; and

13 WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project could also be
14 enhanced to provide cooperative research grants, scholarships,
15 internships, and fellowships for California State University (CSU)
16 students and Mexican students who strive to engage and learn
17 within a comprehensive exchange program; and

18 WHEREAS, Under the North American Free Trade Agreement
19 (NAFTA), United States companies and Mexican businesses are
20 partnering more than ever before; and

21 WHEREAS, Mexico is California's number one business partner
22 and, according to the United States Department of Commerce,
23 United States exports to Mexico exceeded one hundred thirty-six
24 billion dollars (\$136,000,000,000) in 2007; and

25 WHEREAS, The majority of the 10,000 Mexican students who
26 come to the United States study at private universities rather than
27 attending campuses within the University of California, CSU, or
28 the California Community College system not only results in the
29 loss of revenue for California, but results in the loss of academic
30 trade; and

31 WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project is working to
32 develop solid, long-term relationship with the National
33 Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and other key
34 institutions under Mexico's National Association of Universities
35 and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES), and will lead to the
36 establishment of joint research ventures and the development of
37 jointly accredited degree programs, which will attract more

1 Mexican students to study at California's institutions of higher
2 education; and

3 WHEREAS, Positive unification and constructive teamwork
4 between CSULB, UNAM, and ANUIES also create better
5 understanding relating to issues of legal and illegal immigration;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, An influential and constructive relationship with
8 Mexico could allow policy and economic collaborations with other
9 countries; and

10 WHEREAS, The California-Mexico Project at CSULB could
11 be a model for other top-tier universities seeking to strengthen and
12 diversify their own student exchange programs; and

13 WHEREAS, Student exchange programs, such as the
14 California-Mexico Project at CSULB, will guide and teach a new
15 generation of students who will greatly impact and positively
16 influence California-Mexico relations and policy development;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The collaboration among CSULB, UNAM, and
19 ANUIES will demonstrate once again that California is an
20 educational and intellectual leader that strives to work with the
21 international community; now, therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California
24 formally endorses the pioneering work of the California-Mexico
25 Project at CSULB and duly recognizes the leadership provided by
26 Professor Armando Vazquez-Ramos, CSULB College of Liberal
27 Arts Dean, Gerry Riposa, and CSULB Chicano Studies Department
28 Chair, Luis L. Arroyo, for fostering this initiative to build greater
29 institutional collaboration between California's and Mexico's
30 colleges and universities; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California also
32 duly recognizes the leadership provided by UNAM, Los Angeles
33 Director Alfredo Alvarez Cardenas, ANUIES Central Region
34 President Omar Wicab Gutierrez, CSU Bakersfield Professor
35 Gonzalo Santos, and Centro Tlahuica de Lenguas e Intercambio
36 Cultural (CETLALIC) Director Jorge Torres Viveros, for their
37 dedication to and collaboration with the California-Mexico Project;
38 and be it further

39 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California supports
40 the California-Mexico Project's continuing effort to increase the

1 mobility and exchange of faculty and students between California's
2 and Mexico's institutions of higher education; and be it further

3 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California requests
4 the California Research Bureau, ~~in consultation with the California~~
5 ~~Postsecondary Education Committee, to assess the exchange of~~
6 ~~students and faculty and the exchange of scientific research,~~
7 ~~between California's and Mexico's institutions of higher education;~~
8 *to research and report on the programmatic and funding elements*
9 *of an effective international student and faculty exchange program,*
10 *including best practices nationally, with an emphasis on exchange*
11 *programs currently involving public institutions of higher*
12 *education in California and Mexico; and be it further*

13 *RESOLVED*, That the Legislature of the State of California
14 requests the University of California, the California State
15 University, and the California Community College system to
16 consult with the California Research Bureau and provide the
17 bureau with data on international exchange programs involving
18 students and faculty, funding of those programs, and other
19 pertinent information, including the number of students and faculty
20 currently involved in those programs; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of California consider
22 policies and programs that will enhance the mobility and exchange
23 of faculty and students between California's and Mexico's
24 institutions of higher education, given the demographic and
25 educational needs of the State of California in the 21st century;
26 and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O